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ABSTRACT

This book describes some of the activities of the Hanna Perkins School in Cleveland, Ohio, which was founded in 1950 to provide education and treatment for emotionally disturbed young children. Specifically, the book examines the experiences and findings of the Mother-Toddler Group, established at the school in 1985, which enrolls 6 toddlers and their mothers for a twice-weekly morning session for a 1- or 2-year period. The program aims to help the children: (1) develop self-care in bodily needs and functions; (2) develop inner controls to help them deal with their social and material environment; (3) build a strong teacher-student relationship; (4) enjoy and master new skills and activities; and (5) prepare for their next developmental phase and entry into nursery school. Chapter 1 serves as an introduction, while chapter 2 outlines the program's educational curriculum. Chapters 3 through 11 discuss what has been learned through the project about toddlers' self-care, mother-child relationships, father-child relationships, toileting, coping with aggression, feelings, personality, playing, learning, socializing, and transition to nursery school. (Contains 31 references.) (MDM)

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